केन्द्रीय सहायता प्राप्त करने में हिमाचल प्रदेश पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव

4249. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नवें वित्त आयोग द्वारा हिमाचल प्रदेश के राजस्व का अनुमान अधिक लगाए जाने के फलस्वरूप उस राज्य को केन्द्रीय सरकार से मिलने वाली सहायता पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार ने इस मामले के तथ्य वित्त आयोग के समक्ष रखे हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस त्रुटि को दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शान्ताराम पोटदुखे) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) नवें वित्त आयोग द्वारा अपनी पहली रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने के बाद आयोग को प्रस्तुत किए गए हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार के पूरक ज्ञाप में उसने राजस्व प्राप्तियों के मूल्यांकन के बारे में अनुरोध किया है । नवें वित्त आयोग ने राज्यों द्वारा उसे भेजे गए विभिन्न ज्ञापनों तथा अन्य सामग्री पर विचार किया है और अपनी सिफारिशें की हैं । भारत सरकार ने उन सिफारिशों को स्वीकार कर लिया है ।

Raids on Fairgrowth Financial Services Ltd.

4250. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether C. B. I. conducted countr-wide raids recently on the residence and official premises of several officers of the Fairgrowth Financial Service Ltd. which is involved in the multi-crore Security Scam as reported in the news item published in the Hindustan Times dated 31st July, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof indicating whether any incriminating documents pertaining to shares purchased by FFSL were seized and detailed inventory formulated; and

(c) what is the present stage of C.B.I. investigation/progress in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dilemma over using of I M F. facility

4251. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Financial Express dated 31st July, 1992 captioned "Government in dilemma over using I.M.F. facility";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that E.S.A.F. (Enhanced/Structural Adjustment Facility) conditions will be particularly severe with regard to the fiscal deficit and will cover cut in subsidies and the public enterprises closures; and

(d) if so, in what manner Government propose to deal/agree to to such loan conditions of I.M.F.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) As per the Letter of Intent dated 2nd June, 1992 of the Finance Minister addressed to I.M.F. alongwith the Memorandum of Economic Policies for 1992-93 which was laid on the Table of the House, it was stated that the Government intends to convert the existing stand-by arrangement with I.M.F. into an Extended Fund Facility arrangement. Final discussions with the I.M.F. on the loan conditions of EFF/ESAF have yet to take place.

SC/ST stock brokers in India

4252. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of stock brokers working in stock exchanges in India at present;

(b) what is the number of percentage of stock brokers belonging to SC/ST; and

(c) what is the procedure for appointing stock brokers and whether the policy of reservation is observed therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As per information furnished by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), there are 5442 stock broker members in the Stock Exchanges in the country.

(b) and (c) The selection and admission of members of a Stock Exchange are governed by the Article of Association/Rules of the Exchange. Government have also issued guidelines relating to selection of members of Stock Exchanges. The criteria for selection of members and the eligibility conditions for their admission do not take into account the caste, creed or community of the persons seeking membership. Accordingly, neither the Stock Exchanges nor SEBI seek or maintain any statistics of stock-brokers based on caste creed or community.

Misuse of Gold Import Policy by Smugglers

4253. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smugglers are using the Customs duty receipts, issued to those who import gold through legal channel, as a cover and license to transport smuggled gold within the country;

(b) what is the amount of Custom duty earned by Government on import of gold by N.R.Is; and

(c) what steps are being taken to thwart the attempt of the smugglers to misuse the scheme of allowing import of gold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) A few instances have come to notice where customs duty receipts issued for payment of duty on legally imported gold have been used to cover the transport and possession of smuggled gold within the country.

(b) Approximately Rs. 80.32 crores have been collected as customs duty on the import of gold from 1.3.1992 to 9.8.1992 from persons of Indian origin and Indian passport holders coming from abroad.

(c) The Customs have been alerted against such misuse of customs duty payment receipts. Persons found misusing such receipts are liable for penalty in Departmental adjudication and prosecution in the court of law if considered necessary.